

Message Text

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73

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 ACDA-19 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-10 ABF-01 TRSE-00

OMB-01 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 DRC-01

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1403

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE USUN 5034

E.O.: 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, AFIN, UN, PO

SUBJ: UN FINANCING: UNEF - PORTUGUESE AMENDMENT

REF: USUN 4997

DURING WEO MEETING MORNING NOV 22, GENERAL CONSENSUS WAS REACHED TO OPPOSE PORTUGUESE AMENDMENT (A/C.5/L.1134). FOLLOWING POSITIONS WERE GIVEN: REPS OF DENMWRK, NORWAY AND JAPAN ANNOUNCED CLEAR OPPOSITION; FRANCE, FRG AND UK REPS FOUND PORTUGUESE AMENDMENT RAISED MANY DIFFICULTIES FOR THEIR GOVTS BUT THEY WERE RECOMMENDING AGAINST SUPPORTING AMENDMENT AND WOULD PROBABLY VOTE AGAINST; DELS OF GREECE, AUSTRIA AND TURKEY SAID THAT THEIR GOVTS WERE PROBABLY AGAINST AMENDMENT; SPANISH DEL SAID THAT AMENDMENT PRESENTED DIFFICULTIES FOR HIS COUNTRY ALSO AND HE WOULD ENDEAVOR TO SPEAK TO PORTUGUESE REQUESTING THEM TO WITHDRAW THEIR AMENDMENT; CANADIAN DEL SAID HE WAS AWAITING INSTRUCTIONS BUT HE BELIEVED THAT CO-SPONSORS OF 35 POWER DRAFT RES (A/C.5/L.1130/REV 1) WOULD OPPOSE. CONSENSUS WAS THAT WEO'S SHOULD ADHERE TO COMMON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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POSITION, SINCE TO DO OTHERWISE COULD UNDERMINE BASIC 35-POWER

DRAFT RESOLUTION.

2. DURING DEBATE IN FIFTH COMITE, NOV 22, CLELAND OF GHANA ANNOUNCED THAT HIS DELEGATION WOULD CALL FOR A ROLL CALL VOTE ON PORTUGUESE AMENDMENT.

3. WE REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS FROM DEPT AUTHORIZING US TO OPPOSE PORTUGUESE AMENDMENT FOR FOLLOWING REASONS: A) OUR STRONGEST ARGUMENT AGAINST CUBAN/YEMENI AND SOV AMENDMENTS HAS BEEN THAT 35-POWER DRAFT IS BALANCED COMPROMISE WHICH SHOULD NOT BE UPSET BY ANY AMENDMENTS. PROGRESS MADE SO FAR (SEPTEL) IN PERSUADING NON-ALIGNED, AND PARTICULARLY AF'S, TO OPPOSE YEMENI AMENDMENT HAS BEEN IN LARGE PART BASED ON RECOGNITION THAT 35-POWER DRAFT SHOULD NOT BE DISTURBED. POLICY OF VOTING AGAINST SOME AMENDMENTS AND NOT OTHERS WOULD BE POOR RESPONSE TO CO-SPONSORS OF 35-POWER DRAFT RES WHO HAVE MADE SPECIAL EFFORT ACCEPT NOTHING THAT WOULD CAUSE USG PROBLEMS. US FAILURE TO OPPOSE PORTUGUESE AMENDMENT WOULD BE READ AS ABANDONMENT OF PRINCIPLE BECAUSE OF OVERRIDING COMMITMENT TO SUPPORT PORTUGAL ON EVERY ISSUE. B) GIVEN FLUIDITY OF SITUATION REPORTED SEPARATELY, WE CANNOT ESTIMATE WITH PRECISION EFFECT ON YEMENI AND SOV AMENDMENTS OF US VOTE ON PORTUGUESE AMENDMENT. HOWEVER, THERE NO QUESTION BUT THAT US ISOLATION COULD HAVE SIGNIFICANT EFFECT SINCE PORTUGUESE AMENDMENT VOTE WILL PRECEDE VOTE ON 35-POWER DRAFT AND COULD COME BEFORE VOTE ON YEMENI AMENDMENT. (LATTER POINT DEPENDS ON RULING FROM CHAIR WHICH HAS YET TO BE MADE.); C) DECISION PLACING PORTUGUESE AMONG COUNTRIES SUBJECT TO REGULAR ASSESSMENT FOR UNEF COSTS WAS POLITICAL DECISION AND IS ONE OF MANY DEPARTURES FROM PURELY ECONOMIC CRITERIA; D) FROM STANDPOINT OUR RELATIONS WITHIN WEO GROUP, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO ADOPT COMMON WEO POSITION; E) PORTUGUESE AMENDMENT HAS NOT SLIGHTEST CHANCE OF BEING APPROVED.

4. INSTRUCTIONS REQUESTED URGENTLY.
BENNETT

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